

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BOARD**

**April 15, 2008, 10:00 a.m.**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

The Information Technology Advisory Board (ITAB) met April 15, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room 116 of the Royster Building on Richardson Drive in Raleigh. Harry E. Payne, Jr., presided.

The following ITAB members were present:

Harry E. Payne, Jr., Chair  
Priscilla Dennison  
Bill Golden  
Lee Mandell  
Robert Powell  
Steve Rao  
Dan Stewart

Absent:

Randy Barnes  
Dede Ramoneda

#### WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:

Chair Harry Payne opened the meeting and welcomed ITAB members and visitors.

#### ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion duly made by Dan Stewart and duly seconded, the Board approved the minutes of the March 18, 2008 meeting.

#### GIS REPORT

Jim Dolan of the Office of State Budget and Management presented an overview of the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Study that was submitted to the General Assembly in February 2008. His presentation included the focus/approach, methodology, key findings and a summary of the more than 20 recommendations. A copy of Mr. Dolan's overview was made available to the members for discussion.

As next steps, Mr. Dolan said funds have been requested for inclusion in the Governor's budget for 2008-09 to address staffing, infrastructure investment for NC OneMap, cost share for orthophotography, and investments for data layer development and maintenance.

Also included in the recommendations was language stating that IT projects using GIS should be reviewed by the Center for Geographic Information Analysis (CGIA) to avoid duplication and to ensure that the business case has been made. The recommendations also requested that state agencies consider server consolidation opportunities to improve efficiencies.

#### CONTINUED DISCUSSION – BOARD PRIORITIES

**State Portal:** Steve Rao presented a brief summary of his preliminary findings from his survey of various state portals and how they are delivering services to citizens. He had either spoken to or received information from top government officials in Utah, Maine, Delaware, Virginia and Kentucky. He learned that the Virginia portal, rated third best in the country, is a public/private partnership that is paid for by transaction fees.

Mr. Rao said he would deliver a more detailed, written report later.

Discussion followed by the members on possible recommendations to improve North Carolina's portal.

Lee Mandell reiterated that the portal is part of a larger issue of eGovernment. State CIO George Bakolia said that the state should look at the "partnering" with the private sector to see if this would provide the best value to the state. Robert Powell suggested that a discussion begin on how to make a recommendation to the General Assembly that includes a statement on the value of a statewide portal.

The Chair suggested that the ITAB advise the State CIO to recommend to the Governor immediately by Executive Order a move toward a state portal. The timing for such a move is good, he said.

Dr. Mandell compared the issue to the GIS discussion. He said the board should use the success story of the implementation of E-procurement in state agencies as a model for any recommendations.

**Sanford Report:** There were no additional comments or discussion regarding the Sanford Institute Report which was discussed at the March ITAB meeting.

**Input from State Portal Advisory Committee:** The Chair said he had met with the State Portal Advisory Committee to provide an update on the Board's discussions. The Advisory Committee, made up of people in agencies with hands-on experience in web pages and dealings with the public, should be involved in any efforts to improve the state portal, he said.

**Recruitment and Retention of IT Personnel – OSP Report:** The Chair said that a report from the Office of State Personnel to discuss intern programs and attrition of IT workers will be carried over to the May meeting of the ITAB. The State CIO reported that a

briefing paper from the National Association of State CIOs had been emailed to the ITAB members on recruiting and retaining state IT employees. He said that the report was a survey of all 50 states and includes some first steps that State CIOs can begin doing to address this issue.

NEXT STEPS:

The Chair proposed that the ITAB consider the following language in a recommendation for the formation of a common portal among all Cabinet agencies and that the State CIO recommend to the Governor that this be implemented by Executive Order:

**“WHEREAS**, a centralized state portal allows the better organization of common functions, e-commerce, information and security; and

**WHEREAS**, a centralized portal is more intuitive, user friendly by consistency of theme, structure and language; and

**WHEREAS**, such a structure would continue to allow individual agencies to control and manage content.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the ITAB advises the State CIO to recommend to the Governor the formation of a common portal among all Executive Cabinet agencies, and to recommend to the State Legislature the funding of all agencies consistent with that goal.”

Gwen Canady, speaking on behalf of Robert Powell, said the Board should also recommend that the General Assembly adopt legislation directing the State CIO, in consultation with the Board, to bring back a plan to improve the state portal. The Chair suggested that this proposal be circulated among the members for review.

Both suggestions were put in the form of a motion and approved by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING:

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., in the second floor conference room of the Royster Building on the Dix Campus in Raleigh.